GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1587
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Recruitment of Pilots
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the country has more than 10000 pilots (CPL Holders) without job and if so, the details thereof and the reason for the same;

(b) whether despite so many pilots jobless in the country, various airlines are still operating with expatriate pilots and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to issue directives to all airlines including to send back the expatriate pilots immediately and recruit pilots only from these jobless pilots in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor; and

(d) whether the Government has taken any action to provide jobs to all these jobless pilots in Government as well as various private airlines and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons behind the same?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) As per records till date, total number of CPL issued by DGCA are 14554 (Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty Four). However, DGCA is not aware about the employment status of these CPL holders.;

(b) & (c) Foreign pilots are employed by airlines to overcome the shortage of type rated commanders (Pilot - in - command) due to growth in aviation sector and induction of new aircraft in the fleet of airlines. However, sufficient number of Indian co - pilots are available and employed with airlines. To cover the shortage of type rated commanders (Pilot-in-command), validation of licence of foreign pilot''s is done under provisions contained in Rule 45 of Aircraft Rules 1937 and FATA (Foreign Aircrew Temporary Authorization) is issued. Further, to restrict the utilization of foreign pilots and to give priority to Indian Pilots, utilization of co-pilots under the privileges of FATA has already been stopped with effect from 01.06.2008 and now FATA is issued only for Pilot-in-command, also as per policy decision taken by MoCA, the provision of FATA has been restricted up to 31.12.2018. In addition to above, as per the guidelines, the Indian pilots who are inducted by airlines are being trained to upgrade them as commander (Pilot-in-command) to phase out foreign pilots.;

(d) As a prevailing practice followed by private / public sector companies, the vacant position of airlines are published on their respective website and/ or newspapers specifying their requirements for the job. Every airline has its own system of recruitment and DGCA has no role in this regard being the regulatory authority.